

I am an active General Class operator. I am married to another ham. We are both members of the ARRL among other amateur radio organizations.

I am writing in support of the RM-10867 proposal. The purpose of the CW requirements and their universality have both passed.

The purpose of CW, communications in emergencies like the Titanic disaster passed when amateur radio became the only users of radio communications still using it. In fact, were reliable, high speed, low power communications the standard for a required area of knowledge, the commission should not only drop CW, it should require PSK31!

Those people who claim that code refines the pool of operators, really mean it is limited to people like them. While some may think that desirable, it is not a legitimate basis for regulation.

At the same time, the Amateur service does have a certain sense of tradition, and CW is both part of that tradition and an effective method of communications for some physically disadvantaged folks. So, I should hate to see it die. Limiting the code test to a single top privilege class seems to me a reasonable way to both sustain its availability and make the public airwaves more available.

I should like to suggest that any final action include a look at frequency allocations. The divisions now grant large sections of the available spectrum to CW users. Areas allocated are substantially larger than actual traffic requires. A reduction of the area allocated to CW would represent a step forward.

Sincerely

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